(b) what is the annual estimated production of platinum within the country and what percentage of the demand is met by imports;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are vast unexploited laterite deposits in Orissa; and

(d) if so, what efforts have been made so far to exploit laterite deposits in Orissa stating the results achieved and what is the programme, if any, to exploit these deposits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BASAVARAJ PATIL) (a) 4054 Troy ozs. of platinum metal was imported during 1989-90 valued at Rs. 3 52 crores.

(b) There is no production of platinum metal within the country and entire requirement is met through imports.

(c) and (d) Investigations for assessing the potential platinum in laterites in Orissa are in progress and are yet to be completed.

Decline in the export of handicrafts

952. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR [illegible]: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's handicraft exports have been gradually declining,

(b) if so, what is the comparative percentage of decline in the exports of handicrafts during 1987, 1988, 1989 and since the begining of 1990;

(c) what is the country's estimated share in the total world trade of handicrafts;

(d) what are the main causes for the decline in the exports of handicrafts stating the names of the countries where exports have declined; and

(e) what steps government propose to take to boost the exports of handicrafts?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The country's estimated share in the total world trade of handicrafts is about 1.5 per cent.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A statement is attached.

Statement

The following steps have been taken to boost the export of handicrafts including handknotted carpets:—

(i) *Cash Compensatory Support (CCS)*

Sl. No.	Export Product	%-rate of CCS on FOB value
1	2	3
(i)	Handicrafts other than those made of Jute . . .	10
(ii)	Jute Handicrafts	12
(iii)	Hand knotted woollen carpets having FOB value:	
	(a) above Rs 650/- per sq mtr	18
	(b) above Rs 250/- but upto Rs 650/- per sq. mtr .	15
	(c) upto Rs 250/- per sq mtr	8

1	2	3
(iv)	Woollen druggets, durries & goat hair pattis . .	8
(v)	Hand/knotted Silken/rayon/staple carpets . . .	15

(2) *Duty Drawback facility*

Sl. No.	Items	Duty Drawback allowed
(i)	Imitation zari all sorts	Rs 31·70 per kg, of Copper content
(ii)	Floor coverings including carpets all sorts & small-size handknotted woollen mats/carpets but excluding machine made woollen tufted carpets	3% of FOB value
(iii)	Cotton Durries (including cotton chindi durries/cotton Rag Rug Durries)/Druggets, when Dyed.	2% of FOB value
(iv)	Brass Artwares and Electro plated Nickle Silver (EPNS)/ Wares.	25% of FOB value subject to a maximum of Rs. 29 40 per kg.
(v)	Aluminium Artwares	Rs. 10 60 per kg.

(3) *Import Replenishment facility*

(i)	Handicrafts, e g Art-metalwares, woodwares etc	10% to 40% of FOB value depending upon the item of handicrafts.
(ii)	Hand-made woollen/silken/synthetic carpets etc	20% FOB value

(4) Pre-post shipment credit is available on concessional rate of interest i e. 7.5 per cent to 9.5 per cent depending upon nature and duration of credit

(5) In order to augment the export of handicrafts including Handknitted Carpets, the two Export Promotion Councils namely the Carpet Export Promotion Council and the Export promotion Council for Handicrafts have also sponsored sales-cum-study teams/Technical delegation, participated in Exhibitions/ Fairs, abroad to explore the market potentials

953 [*Transferred to 8th January*, 1991]

Financial assistance by Delhi Financial Corporation for development of tourism

954. SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Financial Corporation has formulated new support schemes for providing financial assistance to entrepreneurs for development of tourism and tourism related activities, facilities and services for the setting up of restaurant, cafetarias, tourist inn, Yatri Niwas, guest house etc,